Leicester,
Dec. 23/76

to
My dear friend Garrison;

Very few things in life are so pleasant to me as to know that you remember me so constantly, so kindly. A new reminder of it, certainly not needed to make me aware of the too kind appreciation you make of anything in the past between us, has just come to my hand, — the beautiful volume of Hurd & Houghton's ed. of Crabb Robinson's Diary, — an exceedingly interesting volume, and one of much value to those who would know the people intimately of the large circle in which he moved. In the

entire frankness, which I am
sure you would have me use,
I will add that I own the three
volumes of the English edition, — the
precious gift to me of our dear
Richard D. Webb, soon after he
returned home from America.
Its, therefore, this new volume's
place in my library, — so gladly
given to it otherwise, — is already
filled, I think I may assume
that you will allow me to exchange
it. I shall however wait
until you tell me that I may.

You know, dear G., that
I felt long ago that you should
not give me more. The evidences
of the affectionate regard, of yourself
and of your children, for me & mine,
abound in my house. But I
cannot, with much heartiness, negative
or veto
the tokens of a regard which is

so much valued by me.

I mailed to you last week a copy of the Worcester "Spy", containing Geo. F. Hoar's Speech on presenting the Statues of John Winthrop & Samuel Adams, &c. Please read it all. I am sure you will feel well repaid. A finer portrait of "the Puritan" was never drawn, I think; and his rapid look into the Gallery of the honored names of Massachusetts interested us here exceedingly.

Ever truly Yrs

Sam'l May

We heartily reciprocate the "Merry Christmas & Happy New Year" for you all.

Ms. A. 1.2 v. 38, p. 73B